What are the UNODC drug and precursor field test kits?

They are kits containing necessary reagents, tools and easy step-by-step instructions to conduct approximately **200 rapid and simple colour tests** for the preliminary field identification of drugs and precursors most commonly encountered in the illicit traffic.

These portable, shock-proof and water resistant kits assist front-line officers to interdict the trafficking of drugs and precursors.

Which drugs and precursors can be tested?

**Drug test kit:** Common drugs such as amphetamine, methamphetamine, “ecstasy”, barbiturates, cannabis and cannabis products, cocaine, heroin, methaqualone, methylphenidate, morphine and opium.

**Precursor test kit:** Starting materials and chemicals most commonly used in the illicit manufacture of drugs: e.g. acetic anhydride, piperidine, anthranilic acid, ergometrine, lysergic acid, ephedrine, pseudoephedrine and 1-phenyl-2-propanone (P-2-P), safrole, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, hydrochloric acid, sulphuric acid and toluene.

Do you have a specific request?

UNODC can tailor the drug & precursor kits to meet your needs. In addition, instructions for the formulations of the test reagents are provided with the kits to allow users to refill the kits with the assistance of local laboratories.

A pocket kit containing a single test targeting a specific group of substances can also be requested (e.g. acetic anhydride pocket kits).
What results can the kits give?

The kits give **preliminary indications of the nature of an unknown substance within seconds**. They help investigators to make rapid decisions on-site.

As the **kit results are presumptive**, they should not be used as a definite identification leading to prosecution. When they indicate the possible presence of an illicit substance, the suspected material must be submitted to an authorized laboratory for further confirmatory tests.

Who can use the UNODC field drug & precursor test kits?

The UNODC test kits can be used by **front-line law enforcement officers, border control officers, custom officers, forensic drug experts and prison officers** to efficiently conduct presumptive tests of unknown substances on-site.

More detailed information about the kits are available online at:


How can UNODC assist Member States with the use of the kits?

Upon request, UNODC furnishes a computer-based training (CBT) programme on the use of the kits, as well as customisable workshops based on the needs of end users.

In addition, numerous publications of the UNODC scientific and forensic services programme are available online at:

The UNODC field drug & precursor test kits are solely produced by the UNODC Laboratory and Scientific Section in limited numbers. They can be requested with a contribution of US$ 180 per kit. The pocket kits are available upon request for US$ 30 per kit. The computer-based training (CBT) programme can also be requested with an additional contribution of US$ 10. Shipping costs, taxes and any other unforeseen charges, e.g. storage, are not included in these prices.

If required, in-person training workshops can be arranged subject to the availability of funds.

Requests for kits, training programmes and workshops should be channelled through the office of UNODC’s Country/Regional Representative. In countries/regions where no such office exists, please contact UNODC Laboratory and Scientific Section at:

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